

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 4329.3155

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
KAZUYA FUKUHARA ET AL.)
)
Application No.: 10/673,427) Group Art Unit: 2825
)
Filed: September 30, 2003) Examiner: Unknown
)
For: PHOTOMASK DESIGNING)
METHOD, PATTERN)
PREDICTING METHOD AND)
COMPUTER PROGRAM)
PRODUCT)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

The following is a concise statement of relevance of the non-English language documents.

1. Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No. 2001-230179 is discussed on page 6 of the present application.

2. Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No. 9-63943 is discussed on page 4 of the present application.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

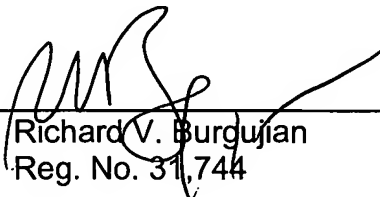
Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: _____

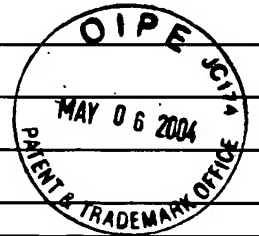
5/5/04

By: _____


Richard V. Burgujian
Reg. No. 31,744

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No. 4329.3155	Appln. No. 10/673,427
Applicant Fukuhara et al.	
Filing Date September 30, 2003	Group: 2825



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial*		Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
		2001-230179	8/24/01	Japan			
		9-63943	3/7/97	Japan			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449 Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce	